

to focus only on Israel's "aggression" against the Palestinian people—a presumption of Israeli guilt before any so-called investigation had even taken place.

During the years when Hamas launched thousands of rockets at innocent Israeli civilians, the United Nations human rights bodies didn't call for any investigation or issue any kind of condemnation. Instead, the Human Rights Council has passed 26 anti-Israel resolutions out of 33 motions to censure countries. Of the 11 emergency sessions that the Council has convened to deal with pressing human rights concerns, six have dealt with Israel. In fact, Israel is the only country listed on the Council's permanent agenda; and only examines Israeli "violations" of Palestinian human rights. There is nothing on the Council's agenda examining the threats or actions of terrorist groups or the nations that support them.

Article 51 of the United Nation's Charter guarantees all U.N. Members the right to defend themselves against terrorism and other

external threats. The Goldstone report completely ignores this fundamental right. It also ignores the steps taken by the Israeli Defense Forces to minimize civilian casualties, steps that often put Israeli soldiers at increased risk. And the Goldstone Report completely ignores Hamas' callous practice of intertwining its terrorist infrastructure within civilian population centers—hospitals, schools, mosques, and even U.N. facilities.

Madam Speaker, the United States must demand fairness and not allow the United Nations General Assembly, the United Nations Security Council, the so-called Human Rights Councils or any other U.N. body to take any punitive actions against Israel for exercising Israel's United Nation's guaranteed right of self-defense.

It is also high time that we take action to leverage our contributions to the U.N. to demand the United Nations finally implement concrete, sweeping reforms to root out ongoing fraud, corruption, and abuse throughout

the U.N. system; and end once and for all the naked, systemic anti-U.S., anti-Israel, anti-Semitic bias within the UN.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 702 To amend title 39, United States Code, to provide clarification relating to the authority of the United States Postal Service to accept donations as an additional source of funding for commemorative plaques.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 22

9 a.m.

Finance

Business meeting to consider an original bill providing for health care reform.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Weapons of Mass Destruction Prevention and Preparedness Act of 2009.

SD-342

Judiciary

Immigration, Refugees and Border Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine comprehensive immigration reform, focusing on how the current immigration law impacts America's agricultural industry and food security.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

Terrorism and Homeland Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine strengthening security and oversight at biological research laboratories.

SD-226

SEPTEMBER 23

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled "Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009", and any pending nominations.

SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Defense Contract Audit Agency, focusing on reform.

SD-342

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine reauthorizing the USA PATRIOT Act.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jacqueline H. Nguyen and Dolly M. Gee, both to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Richard Seeborg and Edward Milton Chen, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

SD-226

SEPTEMBER 29

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Contracting Oversight Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine improving transparency and accessibility of federal contracting databases.

SD-342

SEPTEMBER 30

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Veterans Affairs contracts for health services.

SR-418